

re Queen Victoria dolls.
 809 7. Children's Toys of Yesteryear

DOLL TALK

FOR
 COLLECTORS

Volume 10, Number 1

July - August, 1953

LAURETTE FROM LUCERNE

What a pity that the picturesque parts of yesteryear must pass along with its inconveniences and crudities. Peasant dress becomes obsolete except when heirloom clothes are brought out for rare festivals. The many petticoats, the rich embroidery, caps and aprons of each district lay away in chests, unless they have been lost in years of war.

Switzerland, by decree of the Almighty, will still remain a land of scenic beauty, although distinctive costumes of the cantons water down into drab uniformity. Dolls, in old dress, have that excuse for being. Take sweet Laurette from Lucerne who wears a braided, bright-hued overblouse, with gay hued ribbons 'round her skirt. The apron is for dress, not dishwashing, the large size chip straw hat for prettiness and certainly for mass. Laurette with crucifix would never enter church with head uncovered.

That head, by the way, is masterfully hand-carved, with slender

features, comb marks in the plainly styled hair; a neck that turns. Entire doll is hand carved wood, jointed at knees and elbows as well as at shoulders and hips. It is a much admired type of doll, imported, of course, from Switzerland,

10½" tall, No.
 1054L, price \$14.95.



When their Kim-port cubby hole for stock was down to about the very last little "Joey and Josette," in came a plump repeat order package of these cunning 4" Bernese from Switzerland. The Berne dress is so pretty with sheer white, bright red, silver cords and always, black lace! Joey has a Maltese cross on his tiny cap ("beanie" to this generation) and is otherwise

smartly attired in pale beige, black and white with a touch of scarlet. They are celluloid dolls but surfaced some way to give a felt-like texture. Cute!

No. 1053 4" Boy\$2.75

No. 1053A 4" Girl\$2.75

THE DOLLS OF M. UEBEL

Years and years ago, Doll Talk ran a few "Stories of the Doll Makers." It would have been a fascinating series to continue as we all might better understand the creations of a person we've learned to appreciate and love.

As to the dolls of Margaret Uebel, well, we've never had anyone yet to inspect their utter perfection without voicing sheer wonder at the beauty and precision of such dolls. Only 8" tall or a bit more for some with high headdress, each costume has every detail in exquisite miniature that would be found on the real peasant. Where can Miss Uebel find such narrow, rich braids, such tiny metallic trim, such delicate embroidery?



It is the Hessian farmer's wife we're offering this time, and would

you believe it—ten vari-colored petticoats? White ribbed hose, leather shoes with buckles, and pendants on her garters that match the bonnet bows, this fabulous frau also features puff sleeves, fancy bodice and a perched-on high, muffin style "hat" that's as rich as a crown with gold trim and gay jewels.

For once I've raced off onto costume instead of properly telling about the doll itself, but such garments must throw one off balance. The doll is adorable—tan tint of wax with a sweet, heart-shaped face, prettily painted features, and hair, usually human.

In vouching for the artistry of these dolls, we may go galloping off in all directions at once. M. Uebel was instructress at the Berlin Academy of Fine Arts, we think in modeling. Her touch is so skilled and assured; her letters in English so halting with their background of thinking in German, but so honest, so sweet-spirited withal. For instance, one time our small package of her handiwork did not come.

Oh, it is always several months between them, but this time we knew that something was amiss. Here are a few quotes from her frank letters of explanation: "I beg you pardon very heartily because I didn't execute your order. These dolls were done twice, but a big doctor-account, the purchase of coal, and not at least the general big dearth made it necessary to sale them here only to get money at once. Only way of saling your dolls brought some helpness. Presently I am working on your dolls ones more and hope sincerely you are not angry and give me absolute. Earning money for a living

is very difficult in Germany, Because things change so often and I cannot calculate."

Once on another letter signed by the translator was written: "The inkspots happened through my mistake and I hope you will forgive me. Miss Uebel is entirely unguilty with regard to them."

So of course we are not angry but appreciative of such sincerity and deeply sympathetic, too. And proud we well may be to have such dear collector gems to offer. It's just the pictured one from Hess this time. Her hand done, rose heart tag says "Schwalm," and if you got one, and want others, there are a dozen districts done in like perfection in Miss Uebel's Munich home. We've had them all betimes.

One of our prize happening tales of Kimport is how Mrs. Maynard Nelson from Minnesota happened in when one long awaited set of ten came in. Oh, Mrs. Nelson looked about, considered this and that, but finally said, "I'll take these." And yes, she did mean "these," the entire group, all different, irresistible, two-hundred dollars' worth—as every Uebel doll that has come to us is \$20.00. If you have a fortunate budget to allow for one of these, you'll love this doll. No. 608, \$20.00.

A YEMENITE MAID

Only in the home of a hobbyist can a postage stamp, an iris bulb or a doll be sure of such a gala welcome. That enthusiasm is truly on the wholesale scale when we at Kimport finally secure one to offer that is utterly different, one from some strange land, pretty if possible, reasonably priced, and absolutely authentic.

It can hardly be claimed that industrious little "Izura" comes from a new country. Her homeland

is the ancient kingdom of Sheba or Yemen, as that principal portion of southern Arabia is now called. Yemen is vast, secretive, backward and fanatically Mohammedan. Pre-historic ruins in the interior are rumored to be akin to our modern city dwellings in height, that is, perhaps seven stories high, but explorers and all outsiders are strictly forbidden to go any place except to the Capitol City.

The Yemenite doll was made in neighboring Israel as a faithful portrait of a girl in their industrial schools, learning to embroider. Izura is barefooted and simply dressed in a clean cotton robe with a knotted scarf to cover her jet black hair. Features are oriental, eyes downcast, as her pretty brown hands work with the gilt and bright hued threads. She sits on a wooden, three-legged stool. No wonder Kimport is proud to offer such a high quality doll, from the Middle or Near East, a maid with native cast of features, authentically garbed and one busy at a typical craft. Izura sits 4½" tall, No. 893-E, \$4.95.





How often have you looked at some dumplin' of a baby, a pick-aninny, a half caste, a street urchin—and had a flash yearning, like Peter Pan? How gay such little tykes might be, if they could evade growing up in a ruthless world! Of course, Japanese dolls are apt to be pretty good interpretations of real people a any age, but our first reaction to this pair of Nippon tots was, children, children—how precious they are!



Little "Benkei" is named for a legendary hero who grew seven feet tall! Twin "Binnie Bud" bids for her share of family attention by being "pretty as a doll" in her richly printed kimono, all faced in candy pink silk. Boy dolls are rare, this wee one is handsomely dressed in a gold plaid kimono, faced with deep turquoise. Both

have bare feet and hands of the same flesh tint material as their heads; cute inset eyes; 3 inches tall; boxed, No. 803, \$1.95 the pair.

Not a late arrival but a standard favorite is the Geisha Girl. This dainty miss with brilliant flowing ceremonial robes and inset glass eyes is No. 805, 7" at \$5.95.



This little pair from Costa Rica, which means Rich Coast, is made of "Indian-color" suede. They have black raffia hair, wide red mouths, rouged cheeks, and very, very, flat leather feet—with painted toenails! Both have detailed and colorful dress—he with knife creased blue cotton trousers, a bright neckerchief, and beautifully made straw hat. She wears a loud cotton print skirt with color bands around the bottom, under a crisp white organdie apron and blouse, both hand embroidered. There are perky red bows on her raven-black pig-tails and she carries a hand-woven basket.

No. 396, 5½" boy\$2.50
No. 396A, girl\$2.50

Priest
Dolls



And here's another foreign number that we keep on re-ordering, knowing full well that its imaginative maker will deviate, but his pardon is granted. Who would want to cut apart, then hinge together a walnut, and have to repeat the identical details in each of the four little niches, ad infinitum? Not Jose' Gonzales—or whatever his name is! Oh, there is a sequence, always four chapters l'amour, in each latched little walnut. Amazingly made with bendable doll actors only half an inch tall. No. 390P, \$1.50.



Kansas ousted prohibition in 1949, but the memory of Carrie Nation will long linger. Symbol of the dust dry state, Carrie is our doll for Kansas, and a stern eyed, determined old girl she is. With hatchet and umbrella in hands, her face is stockinette, a portrait likeness. No. 137A, 8 inches tall, \$7.50.



Three priest dolls, hand made in California, are nice, medium priced dolls, 10" tall. No. 179C is a young Jesuit, 179D a white robed Dominican, and 179B a Franciscan Friar in brown. Of course each comes with his own, informative pedigree page. \$3.95 for any one.

"My collection of antique chinas numbers fourteen, but I can't help feeling like the boy who joined the Navy—so they started him in as an Admiral! You'll see why, as included is a 'covered wagon' hair style with wonderful coloring, a glazed china bonnet lady with Dresden like flowers thereon, and a placid faced girl with such big ears that she reminds one of a Greiner."

—Mrs. L. H. Brink, Indiana.

QUEENLY COSTUMES

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Mattie B. Moesser, Publicity Chairman of The Doll Collectors' Guild, we pass along parts of a picturesque article on the Evolution of Costumes of the Queens of England. This data was compiled by Miss Ruth Walker of Brooklyn for the club's May meeting; it was illustrated with twenty dolls in costume.

The speaker explained why there are limits to both color and type of materials for the early period. Silk was made as early as 2000 B. C. by the Chinese, who guarded their secret well. It was not until the fourth century A. D. that the Japanese learned to make silk. From then on, his knowledge traveled slowly westward. Lack of transportation and of inter-relationships between parts of the known world, left its westward introduction for Knights returning from the Crusades. Commonly used in Constantinople, then began to appear in the costumes of European ladies of Nobility. The method of making velvet was not known until the 13th century, so the type of authentic materials for early Queen dolls is out.

Flemish looms had long been producing fine woolen stuffs made from wool, sent across the channel from England, so costumes of wool would certainly be possible and quite fashionable in those days.

Color choices were also limited in early Mediaeval times, no synthetic dyes, but the main known source being vegetable. It is probable that our early Queens wore costumes of subdued hues, although I do remember the color descriptions that Thomas Costain

splashes through his Pageant of England series. There is a crimson leather shoe, a swish of cape that shows bright orange lining, when Eleanor of Aquitaine determines to ride forth!

For more than two centuries, styles were simple, with long, flowing lines, possibly belted in at the waist. By the time of Isabel of France, wife of Edward the Second, a definite change appeared which was followed by a style that lasted until the time of Elizabeth of York, mother of Henry VIII. This was the period of the "cote-hardie" with its sideless dress and later on, the "houpperlande" styles which may now be seen in ancient tapestries. These costumes were fashioned from rich materials and ornamented with jewels.

The changes in the style of head-dress, including the chin-band, the wimple, the gorget, the crespins, the hennin and a variety of other eccentric headcoverings which would make an interesting study in themselves.

The Evolution in Costume, from the time of Miss Walker's Queen Matilda, wife of William the Conqueror (1066), to the present day, makes an enlightening study.

THEY WERE QUEEN VICTORIA'S WOODENS

Last Doll Talk we carried a quote story (with uncertainty) called "Back to Elizabeth I." We felt that the dates therein too nearly paralleled the history of Queen Victoria's collection, but of course "Elizabeths" were headlining all queen stories for June, '53.

One of the comments sent in concerning the article was especially helpful because it came from Mrs.

Charles A. Williams, "Darcy" to the doll world, who by the way is now writing and illustrating a book that will deal exclusively with the history and making of wooden dolls. That's a fascinating subject and should work up into something we will all welcome. We'll venture it will be well authenticated by the battery of lights that Darcy supplies. To quote:

"The clipping you quoted . . . is all right in most respects except for the fact that the special collection referred to belonged to Victoria and not Elizabeth I.

"Laura B. Starr in "The Doll Book" (published in 1908) discusses a doll made of bark alleged to have belonged to Queen Elizabeth.

"The story of Queen Victoria's dolls is told in a book, by that name, published in 1894, written by Frances Low. In this are reproductions of paintings in colors

of more than 62 of these charming dolls by Alan Wright. There are photographs of 3 in Holmes' "Children's Toys of Yesterday," and in my files I have other photos from the London Museum where these dolls are now. Charles Morris, in his biography of Queen Victoria (1901), tells about how these dolls were found packed away in a trunk; of the elderly Queen's interest in her old friends and how the Low book came to be written."

DO YOU KNOW!

That in 1910, a French organization, translated as "Doll Trust," revived the old Fashion Doll idea, sending a petite delegation around the world as good will ambassadors?

PATCH POCKET BINGE

We bet y' that Lois Stott is the sort of person who would find "sermons in stones, books in the running brooks," and dolls in the most unlikely of places. She recently found some in one unlikely place, but we think any spot is a good one for dolls. Shown in Marshall Field's ad were full skirts with huge patch pockets, upon which had been jauntily tacked two Guatamalan straw dolls—a clever center of interest!

We have some cute dolls from Ecuador, made of cloth, that are by far the least expensive imports in the Kimport line. These could easily be used in the same way. Two sizes, No. 394A is a well made family, 5" tall, at \$1.25 the pair. No. 394, about 3" tall, only 50c for two.

BY JEEP OR BUCKBOARD

Blanche Mosse didn't say what was her mode of transportation in this Texas tale, but anyway it ends with a golden coach. She writes: "Dolls or figurines, I'm tempted by Doll Talk again and here is the story of why I'm glad that I can fall. The other day I picked up some friends who had barely missed their train (one a day, too!) and I chased it down the Magic Valley Road nearly 100 miles. Before they got aboard, one of them put a \$10 bill in my purse, very much against my will, as they were personal friends. When I got home I found your Doll Talk with that Queen and Coach 'n' Eight. When I see those friends again next fall, I'll show them just what I wanted and therefore it is really a gift from them."

THE BERKSHIRE EXHIBIT

Included in our notice bulletin from The Doll Collectors of America, Inc., was this notice which will be welcomed by any of you who are luckily bound for New England during the hot months:

"The Berkshire Museum—Pittsfield, Mass., is sponsoring an exhibition of over a thousand dolls, July 1 through August.

July 8th—Official Opening—Mrs. Ernest H. Perkins, one of our members, in charge of arrangements, will speak about the Dolls at the Berkshire Museum."

COLLECTS—AND SHARES

Mrs. Julius Rassner, currently president of "The Doll Collectors' Guild," recently sent us her own full page story from the March 29th Journal American. It was a smartly written short story stressing how a choice collection had been built up in ten years from an initial \$25.00 purchase into a \$10,000 hobby. The first investment was for three irresistible small dolls, a hostess, guest and maid serving tea, which Ruth Rassner gayly took home to gift wrap for her own Christmas present. Every Christmas, Kimport reminds you all that there is no comparable way to secure the very thing you want most!

But back to the pictorial tab with its well selected pictures. Assembled groups are always intriguing; one such showed a French bisque nursemaid in long cape and bonnet, pushing a proper sized old pram with bisque infant therein, while a French Steiner little sister, hugging her own dolly, marched ahead; cute pug dog on a leash completed this picture.

MORE GUESTS?

When Ethel Creek ordered "15 more" of those li'l old German china dolls (No. 614 at \$1.00), she told what she had done with the first order. Dressed sort of Civil War style, they had been used as gifts to little girls who perhaps had modern doll-house families, but this was "The Old-fashioned Girl Comes to Visit." Now if this delegation of fifteen visitors turns out to be Kissin' Kin who stay on by the month—but why question Texas hospitality and that's where Miss Creek lives and gives.

Top honors might well go to her lovely French bisque child called "Taffee from Paree." Jointed at hips and shoulders, with long hair, swivel neck and glass eyes, this little beauty received \$10.00 an hour for posing—I think in the altogether! Anyway, in the Sunday paper, Taffee is in that classic tummy-on-white-fur-rug position that mothers used to go in for in such a big way with their helpless wee ones. The doll's sponsor is the Wm. Carter Company, underwear manufacturers, so maybe you've seen this model in the magazines.

And here is a quote from Mrs. Rassner's accompanying letter to Kimport: "I frequently exhibit my dolls for charitable causes and, as the many doll collectors who do this know, these displays require an expenditure of much time, effort and money. However, I am amply rewarded by the pleasure the exhibitions give thousands of people, and by the useful purposes served by the moneys I am able to thus raise. I believe that no one can reap fullest enjoyment from their collections, unless they share them.

NINA

Nina, but no Pinto nor Santa Maria, only Doctor Bombard's historic raft was featured craft in a Life Magazine story—issue of May 18, '53. That name "Nina" does not appear in the whole harrowing tale of 4,000 storm-tossed miles, but Dr. Bombard did log the fact that he would carry on a conversation with his little companion, a bon voyage gift. There was a picture of this good luck doll, and of course lots of you knew at a glance that she was a yarn-made Portuguese flower girl. Of course, her name could be anything, but "Nina and Manuel" are what their Kimport pedigree pages call them, and now we know their potency for charming the right sorts of fish, for inducing rain clouds to shower, and for being good company. Alone with a man on a raft for over 60 days!

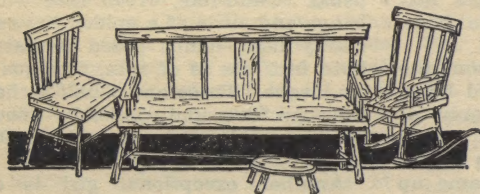


charges at the end of a long waiting, that the sender has decided to change. Portuguese "Nina and Manuel" were delightfully acceptable in 5" size, but this new shipment came through around 7" tall. Same price, same old number, all handmade. 1001 for him, 1001A for her. \$2.50 each.

Foreign sources are always just a bit like a grab bag. We may ask for a repeat on a perfectly satisfactory pre-order, only to find after paying duty and other

Right from The Ozarks

All hand made "in our living room workshop," writes the clever, industrious couple who are making some really delightful doll size furniture. The 4-piece set that Kimport fea-



tures consists of a simple back settle with arms, matching rocker, straight chair and a cricket. Maple color, all have properly angled legs, smoothly rounded edges for seats, slat backs and arms, and of course the cunning oval footstool. All are properly braced with rungs, strictly "Early American," and the size? Correct for 8 or 9 inch dolls, which means seats 2½" high, backs 6½". Really a buy, for decoration or actually for dolls. Complete set, No. 36X, \$3.75.



Last time we offered parians, French bisque, frail chinas in pink luster finish and very old papier-maches. Perhaps they sounded too expensive for vacation months; anyway, we still have some of them. Heat waves and tragic storms, vacation plans and hundreds of personal reasons account for putting off a question or an order, but if they did have failings, dolls would feel all cut up when they are given Doll Talk special spots and no one comes forth to adopt them. Of course, we know more people will buy low priced dolls. This time we'll feature them, not a one over \$20.00!

First, three bisque children with glass eyes and wigs, two girls and a boy. He is a boy because his blonde, real hair is cut straight bob, and because he wears a precious plaid velvet suit and cap in Kate Greenaway style. Ordinary shoulder head has dark gray eyes; pretty bisque hands nice old leather slippers and fine lisle hose. Circa 1900, No. A839, \$12.50.

Anita is 15 inches tall, about the same age, only she has hard body, inexpensive type, jointed only at shoulders and hips. Her swivel head in German bisque with a capital "B" marking. Anita came up with a box of dolls from South Carolina. We left her sweet, hand-made clothes and even her price tag exactly as it was, but did fit her out with a needed new blonde wig. Sweet little girl in blue, No. A935, \$6.00.

"Florine" is a Fulper and a nice buy in 16-inch size with kid body; old arms, one broken thumb; becoming new curls 'n' bangs, she too wears a hand-made print frock, especially lovely undies and white laced shoes over old lace stockings. Fulper bisque heads were a short time venture after World War I. Seventeen inches tall, No. A934, \$15.00.

White bisque with modeled hair is a different classification than the above three pink play types. Here is a delightful blonde one, with "primer" print body of Kate Greenaway figures, which is unusual. Eight inches tall; hair style is center parted, flanked by puffs or curls; a white shirred yoke with gilt trim above and below the gathered rows. This, of course, is all in the white bisque bust. One foot broken and gone; full skirted dress of tiny red print cotton is braid trimmed. No. A928, price \$15.00.

You see, bisque is such a versatile material, running from the finest French fashion types down to stone bisque penny dolls. We even have in one lovely pink bisque Frozen Charlotte—and that is unusual. Child-like, broad face with bangs and curls of a golden brown; dainty little hands posed forward, bare feet, she is of thin, fine quality bisque. Three and a half inches tall; perfect, and probably about 70 years old. Dressed. No. A890, \$15.00.

Another exceptional girl is of smooth white bisque, like parian. Face and bare limbs (jointed) are flesh tint, clothing white with rose trim. She is the type with modeled on clothes, extremely old-fashioned looking ones, consisting of a square necked camisole and

bloomers with bows below the knees. Her picture is on Page 65 of Mrs. Fawcett's first book, "Dolls, A Guide for Collectors." Height is 6¼ inches; this little white bisque girl with wide swung hair bob and determined look is No. A895, priced \$17.50. She is perfect.

And an old bisque head only with modeled blonde hair, softly waved and center parted, medium height forehead. This is a wanted type with big blue painted eyes, holes for sewing it onto body; 4 inches high, 3 inches across shoulders. Hair line crack on one shoulder. No. A987, \$18.00.

Next bisques are tinies that we would not dare mention if there was not a little bit of stock on hand. Old German bisque miniatures, jointed at hips and shoulders. The man is dressed as a chef and is 1¼ inch size, No. A800C, \$1.50.

Little bride's hand crocheted gown is a bit yellowed with age—these would date before Word War I, but she retains her bouquet and veil; 1½ inch size, No. A800B, \$1.25.

We have more of her than of the chef.

Recently we purchased quite a collection of Civil War time china headed dolls. Most of them do cost over \$20.00, so can't be invited to this listing, but we'll let 8¼ inch Nancy in. Her deep shouldered 2-inch head, sweet old flat shoes and slender arms are all original. Extremely high brow, hair wide at the sides, soft vertical curls. Redressed by owner; blue eyed, jet haired Nancy is No. A992SP, \$20.00.

Under the wire, too, comes 12-inch Edna May. She has sort of creamy coloring with coral tint cheeks and lips, red dots in the

corners of her eyes and at nostrils. Her hair drops down from high temples in four much more decided scallops than does little Nancy's. White line center part; deep shouldered 3¼-inch head has holes for sewing it onto body. There has been a professional mend at her neck, which is quite invisible. Lovely, slender arms are old, as is the cloth body with ribbed white hose and bronze leather slippers. Really old clothes, too, that are quaintly becoming. No. A833, \$20.00.

For a box full of little oldtimers, I shall try to shorten the phrases of enthusiasm down to vital statistics, but that isn't easy when each one looks like a real little person, and, as such, craving a personal word.

Four with sleeping, tiny eyes, lovely quality bisque heads and smoothly enameled composition, jointed bodies.

Six-inch Jennie's eyes are brown; long blonde curls, original white frock. All in perfect condition. Pretty child with closed lips; No. A961, \$12.50

Five and a half inch little lady is similar with big blue eyes and "child-made" looking old costume. She had to have a pinhead size paint job on her saucy pug nose. No. A980, \$7.50.

Perfect again, really new looking, is a 4¼-inch tot, and she has a cut beneath her modeled bisque teeth, about 1/16 of an inch long—isn't that a tiny? No. A985, \$8.50.

And the fourth sleeping tiny one is 5 inches tall; looks some way like a disagreeable child rather than a doll. She has open mouth with inset teeth, the smallest ever, and a brown bobbed human hair

wig—old clothes. No. A962, \$5.00.

Now the next four little beauties are completely fine bisque, all jointed at hips and shoulders; all have high heeled slippers on preciously modeled legs—brown glass eyes that are set, not sleepy ones—closed lips—are every one perfect and really pretty!

Most beautiful because of extra large eyes is 5-inch "Smoothie." She has long, light brown curls; dressed in pink frock of hand-made lace and two-strap, brown slippers. No. A843, \$13.50.

"Delight" is a 5½-inch beauty with, oh! such shapely bisque legs in check-modeled buff stockings and two-strap slippers. Brown curls; her handsome frock is brown and buff and becoming! No. A844, \$12.50.

Three and a half inch Little Tad came to Kimport from England. In this small size of fine bisques, their brown eyes tempt one to say "bright as a mouse's"! Black, open-front shoes, brown bobbed wig, almost baby features, No. A957 is \$7.50.

Same size, "Sister," wears original old red dress and pinafore. Her stockings are black, slippers buff; expression cunning. No. A958, \$7.50.

These small bisques with glass eyes are truly collector class items. We have some even less expensive small dolls, so never be afraid to ask.

No, not antiques, although they almost rate that class since they were made in Germany before the war—and how they survived the blitz we do not know. Anyway these little undressed china dolls now available in limited quantity.

You who know dolls realize what quaint little dolls these are when dressed in old-fashioned costumes. They definitely are not reproductions, are imported from Germany, hence as authentic as the very ones your mother or grandmother had. The legs, heads and arms are unglazed white with jet black for hair and rosy cheeks and lips. These add up to the simple old-fashioned charm of the classic china headed doll. Sorry, no blondes; are all in one popular play size of 4¼", their little pink cloth bodies stuffed with sawdust. Order No. 614, price, \$1.00 each.

A few in 11" size; their heads and brown shoes are glazed. No. 614X, \$5.00 each.

YE DOMINATING QUIRK

When Mr. Meek each day would drop

Into Ye Ancient Antique Shoppe,
The owner got that glinty eye,
Suspecting that Meek soon would buy

The old wax doll at which he peered
Or rather, fascinated, leered—
But Mr. Meek just looked and left.
Ye owner, puzzled and bereft,
Was shocked to jitters when one day

With eyes tight shut he heard
Meek say,

"Be quick, man, wrap her up for me."

'Twas done, but like a grisly task
Ye owner felt constrained to ask,
"What came of your resistance,
man,

Enlighten me, pray, if you can,
What dominating influence
Has nicked your tight-held affluence?

Some quirk, is it in your own life?"

"Oh, certainly," said Mr. Meek,
"my wife."

DOLL TALK

A magazine in miniature, published for doll enthusiasts. Issued about every eight weeks.

Subscription is \$1.00 for two years.

Address:

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Independence, Mo.



"VICTORIA ENTERS A DOLL MUSEUM"

Caroline B. Piercy has long been a Kimport friend, and we have sent many dolls her way both for her own pleasure and for the Western Reserve Historical Society. In turn, Kimport handled some of Mrs. Piercy's pretty rag doll "Rosamond," which was put out in a limited, numbered edition. In Rosamond's school satchel of check gingham matching the pink of her bonnet and frock, there was a copy of the blue bound "Memoirs" of this original doll. We stocked two miniature volumes; the other being "Sylvia, the Shaker Maid," for whom a wool yarn doll has been designed. Only 2½x3¼", these doll sized story books are 50c each.

Two books not connected with dolls were published next. On Shaker lore is "The Valley of God's Pleasure," and, yes, it's a cook book—"Not by Bread Alone." Brand new is a series of doll memoirs written for the dolls themselves by their dear and understanding

friend, C. B. P.—"Victoria Enters a Doll Museum." As this is fiction, delightful fiction for young doll enthusiasts, we shall not be selling it through Kimport, where reference books are stocked. Its publisher is Pageant Press of 130 W. 42nd St., New York. 64 pages, four chapter stories, price \$2.00.

"DOLLS AND STUFFED TOY MAKING"

Another little book from which we are sure toymakers would glean ideas is, "Dolls and Stuffed Toy Making," of Dover Publications, 1780 Broadway, New York. It is 96 pages of eight chapters, wherein is discussed hand-made toys for infants and older children. There are more animal than doll directions and patterns; some on knitted, many on stuffed varieties. In paper back, it sells for 60c—cloth bound, \$1.50.

Kimport cannot fill orders nor do we have further source information other than "At your Book Dealers."

PRIVILEGED

We learn about Museums from our friends. This time it is Miss Winnie Langley who was buying a big, early-day, glass-eyed papier-mache from us. She wrote:

"I saw such a doll at a museum in Newark, Delaware, which is a darling old historical town. They had a room full of dolls and toys, but this largest doll was in a beautiful old hand-made cradle. The hostess was charming and opened a locked glass door to show us other treasures in the doll room. I guess most of her guests weren't quite so enchanted with the dolls, but she loved them, and was glad we did, too."

P. T. ANNOUNCING

When Mrs. J. E. Titman and some 200 of her dolls entertained at a Mother's Day banquet last spring, the church ladies provided her with a portable microphone. Little daughters were called up front; even so, as the majority of her dolls were stationed there, and Patricia wrote that for a good hour she spoke on and on but off the cuff. Everyone enjoyed it immensely; in fact, they engaged her for next year, on the spot! There was a fee, we know, because that was sent as a sentimental gift to Patricia Titman's own mother, who could not be present. Nice.

YOUNG YORK STATE COLLECTOR

"You Great Big Beautiful Doll" was the heading for a full newspaper page story (April 26, '53) about our young friend Diane Burhyte and her 300 dolls. Ten good pictures took up most of the space, but there was good copy on the three-year history of her collection also. In this, we proudly ferretted out this paragraph: "And Diane is still collecting! Right now it's the 'Little Women' dolls that have her interest. She has a delicate, gentle-appearing 'Beth' doll. 'Jo,' 'Amy,' and 'Meg,' straight from Louisa M. Alcott's timeless story for girls, will follow one of these days. Diane's saving up for them. Friends and relatives have given her many of her finest, of course, but she takes pride in buying dolls out of her allowance, too!" Yes, Diane's Kimport Key Sheet as of that date showed One Little Woman sent, and three to go!

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS

"Back in 1915 my mother used to go to Buffalo and buy supplies from a doll hospital (I'm sure it was Mrs. Clear's). I used to keep my little niece's dolls in repair. No wonder when I wanted a hobby I went back to dolls!"

—Mrs. Elsie Bodie, New York.

"I keep my Doll Talk and bind three, every six months, into color folders to use as reference books."

—Mrs. K. J. Ditmore, California.

"I do research on my dolls in the Cincinnati Public Library and have typed cards for each doll that are certainly convenient when preparing lectures on my hobby. 'Doll Talk' has been most helpful as a supplement.

"I am building up a collection of foreign dolls which have been brought from various countries by my friends. To this I have added several Kimport Dolls which I always find are authentic and valuable with their pedigree pages."

—Muriel Martin, Kentucky.

"That 11½" china doll, No. 614X, sounds exactly right to dress and fit into an old-fashioned sleigh that my husband made last year to use for Xmas decoration."

—Mrs. George Harsch, Ohio.

"We were so pleased with the Coach, and the box in which it all was packed—'so very British.'"

—Mrs. W. T. Green, Texas.

"Please send Nina Plumosa, as I am always in the market for Mrs. Layton's lovely and imaginative little creations."

—Thelma Taylor, Hawaii.

"The 'Whistler's Mother' doll arrived in time to be the center of a display of 'Mother dolls.' There were six foreign mother and child groups from Kimport, if you could include the nested Matreshka set."

—Mrs. Charles M. Cooper, N. Y.

"I'm anxious to dress my beautiful little Mary Todd in Civil War style gown, all generously cut from green velveteen and trimmed with fine old ecru lace. Hmmm!"

—Susan Cass, Michigan.

"My collection numbers only slightly over one hundred, but I find a great variety more interesting than those of one kind, especially since I have been giving doll talks. In my talks I do not go into lengthy details of history, but touch on important things, the humorous side, and any interesting angles. Otherwise, your audience is lost. Two of my dolls of which I am especially proud, were sent to me by that lovable star, Jessica Dragonette, who is a personal friend of mine."

—Margaret Essi, Ohio.

"I attended the Jubilee and Coronation in 1937, so this current one floods me with memories. The Shirley Temple doll I want is to send to a little girl in England. I do enjoy reading of my friends in Doll Talk. It is such a splendidly enjoyable little Push-in-your-purse size paper."

—Mrs. Diamant, New York.

"I just must have your Coronation Special as my mother was 'born and raised' in England and we (twelve of us) grew up on English traditions and Royal Family stories. To this day we all still like them."

—Nellie W. Dickinson, Wisconsin.

"Wish you could see the 'Country Cousins' made up from the Fulpers you sent me some time ago. Everyone enjoys them so much. We need fun, as well as beauty, with dolls." —Grayce S. Neff, Colorado.

"A recent addition to my collection is a very 'funny' looking doll brought over around fifty years ago from Tasmania. She stands about 8 inches and is made of brown cloth, black horsehair and nose made of beads on top of her mouth, and ears up in her hair! Eyes are wooden slits inserted. Bracelets are of scrolled paper."

—Beatrice Griffiths, Mass.

"In our new home in El Cajon Valley, our den is also our hobby room, housing my dolls and my husband's guns and our books. My doll family has a lovely new cabinet to reside in instead of being hidden away in boxes."

—Mrs. H. W. Bailey, California.

"The stands you sent were a joy! I had to borrow some others, and now I know it pays to buy good stands."—Helen Barclay, Illinois.

"I'm one of those gals who take doll collecting as a cultural and adult hobby—BUT—you would have laughed to see me fussing over that bisque boy baby you sent. He was a sad little orphan, not just a special dated Heubach. Dear me, perhaps new rompers, and yes, tilt up his chin, stretch out his baby arms, and 'silly,' says I to myself, but just look what a bit of loving adoption had done for that li'l rascal!"

—Louise Cogill Thomas, Pa.

YOU CAN JOIN THE DOLL OF THE MONTH PLAN TODAY

"Words fail me when I try to tell you how thrilled I am over the dolls of the past year," wrote Mrs. Mary Lippincott of Maine as she started her

THIRD YEAR DOLL OF THE MONTH MEMBERSHIP

The idea works out so successfully that most collectors, after getting their thirteenth doll free, start right out on a new series. . . . They love the adventure of a surprise doll sent them each month, but selected with their own preferences as to size, price and type always in mind.

A circular describing the service is enclosed.

Kimport Road Shows Will Soon Be Rolling Again!

We'd like to put on store shows in each section of the country so that every collector could see what an impressive array of dolls Kimport has to offer. Obviously that is impossible, but following an unbroken precedent of many years, we'll have a show at San Francisco in August and then bring an exhibit to St. Louis in September. You're invited and if at all possible, it would pay you to attend.

**EXHIBIT AND SALE
KIMPORT DOLLS
AT THE EMPORIUM
ART NEEDLEWORK DEPT.,
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
AUGUST 10th to 15th**

**KIMPORT DOLL SHOW
TOY DEPARTMENT
SCRUGGS-VANDEVOORT-
BARNEY
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
Sept. 28th to Oct. 3rd**

SEND ALL ORDERS TO:

KIMPORT DOLLS, Independence, Mo.